

ST GUTHLAC'S COMMUNITY NEWS



Parish Church of St Guthlac
Knighton, Leicester LE2 3LF

<https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk/>



Sunday 18 February 2024
First Sunday of Lent

Sunday 18th February

This Sunday at 10.30am, Revd Janet Gasper will be presiding and preaching at a service of Holy Communion.

The Collect and Readings for the First Sunday of Lent

Almighty God,
whose Son Jesus Christ fasted forty days in the wilderness,
and was tempted as we are, yet without sin:
give us grace to discipline ourselves in obedience to your Spirit;
and, as you know our weakness,
so may we know your power to save;
through Jesus Christ your Son our Lord,
who is alive and reigns with you,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
one God, now and for ever.
Amen

1st Reading: Genesis 9.8-17;

Psalms 25.1-9;

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3.18-22;

Gospel Reading: Mark 1.9-15

ST GUTHLAC'S CHURCH FAMILY NEWS

Praying for the World: Please pray for refugees and migrants across the world, and especially the work of BACA (see detail inside).

Praying for the Church: With others across our diocese, please pray for the people and leaders of Aylestone St Andrew's- Aylestone, St Christopher's - Saffron Lane, St Hugh's - Eyres Monsell, and St James the Greater - Huncote. Pray for both vision and energy.

Praying for those in need: Please pray for all those who are in need at the moment, those who are unwell in body, mind or spirit, those who are anxious and worried as well as those facing new challenging circumstances.

Also, give thanks for those who are recovering and who have found God's peace.

Please remember those who have died recently, and pray for their families and friends. We also remember all those whose anniversaries fall at this time.

Weekly prayer for roads in the parish – **Blankley Drive.**

For further prayer requests which can be included in the weekly prayer list or anonymized and prayed for in private, please contact Revd Adrian adrian.jones@zoho.com or Jane administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

PLANNED GIVING SCHEME Regular giving is an integral part of our church life supporting our day-to-day costs, ministry and mission. A good way to achieve this is through a weekly envelope or a monthly bank standing order as part of our Planned Giving Scheme. Scheme details can be obtained from David Hunt, Planned Giving Scheme Secretary: churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk. If you are a taxpayer and gift aid your giving, our church can claim an additional 25%.



Holbrook Oasis
at St. Guthlac's Church,
Wednesdays 1.30-3.30pm

Companionship, Conversation, Refreshment, Relaxation
Open to all, especially young families, people living alone, older persons and if you are new to Leicester. Tea, coffee and cakes provided. Email; churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

EcoTip for February: Go green for Lent. The weeks leading up to Easter are a time for self- reflection, repentance and emulating Jesus' obedience to the Father. Is there something you'd like to give up or take up during Lent that will enable you to reflect on God, contribute to our planet's well-being and enhance others' lives through sustainable, eco- friendly living? Explore some of these changes at <https://arocha.org.uk/go-green-for-lent/>

Lone Working Policy

Following our PCC meeting this week, it was agreed that the congregation should be reminded of the Lone Working Policy, which should be followed if you are in the church or hall on your own for any reason. The full policy is displayed at the back of church, but the most important point to note is to notify someone that you are in church and let them know when you leave. Thank you.

Mothers' Union Fellowship

Our next meeting is on Tuesday, 27th February when our friend, Léonie Nibona, will tell us about the work of the Mothers' Union in Burundi. We'll meet as usual in the Parish Centre at 1.30pm for a 2pm start. Non-members are welcome to join us. LP

Warm and Welcome: Every Monday and Thursday afternoon, 2pm - 4.30pm we open up the Warm and Welcome Room at the Parish Centre for anyone who'd like a warm space, a hot drink and a chat... and now we're adding puzzles and other activities too. All Welcome

St. Guthlac's Services

Sunday at 10.30am

25 th February	Morning Prayer	Revd Cecilia Adjadje
3 rd March	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
10 th March	AAW Mothering Sunday	Revd Adrian & Revd Cecilia
17 th March	Eucharist	Revd Janet Gasper
Every Thursday at 9.30am		Holy Communion
Every Tuesday 9.30am at St. Mary's		Holy Communion

Blessing your donations & the Collection Plate

Now many people do planned-giving through their direct debit, it seems inappropriate to hand the collection plate round during a service. The collection plate now will be at the back of the church.

Please leave your donation as you come into the service. A steward or member of the congregation will take up the plate to the altar for all donations to be blessed during the 3rd / offertory hymn or at a suitable point in non-Eucharist services.



The World Day of Prayer Friday 1st March

The service for this year has been prepared by Christian women of Palestine on the theme:
"I beg you, bear with one another in love".

Local services will be held at 2pm at St James the Greater, London Road and at 7.30pm at Christchurch, Clarendon Park Road. We will be part of a great wave of prayer, celebrated in more than 146 countries around the world, starting at sunrise in Samoa and continuing around the world until sunset back in the Pacific. Everyone is welcome to attend.

A Brighter Building

At our recent PCC Meeting we gave the go-ahead to decorate the church, we are going to have “A Brighter Building”! The amazing donations we have received have given us sufficient funds to decorate the main church; but, if we could find a further £3000 we could also tidy up the Welcome Area, kitchen and toilet. Plaster shrinkage in this new part of the building has caused cracks in the paintwork to show, so if that could be tidied up now, it will look smarter when we walk into the church. I know it’s a big ask after such a fantastic fund raising effort, but I’m sure it will be worth it.

As with all our fund raising, we are happy to receive your donation by whatever way is convenient to yourself. That could be cash or cheque in an envelope (or one of our blue envelopes) with “Decorating” written on it; or you could do a Bank Transfer directly into our bank (if you don’t have the details, please ask me). In addition, if you are a tax payer, please consider a “Gift Aid” with your donation; if you’re not sure how to do this, please ask me.

It will be a few weeks before the first paint is applied, we have to ensure that we don’t fall foul of the Faculty process and we would like to carry out a couple of repairs first. But you will know when it starts as we will be having our services in the Hall while the work is carried out.

Thank you for all you have given so far and I’m sorry we are asking for just a little more, but the opportunity to tidy up the Welcome Area at the same time is too good to pass by.

David Hunt

Churchwarden & Treasurer

Virtual Compline 8.00pm Wednesday evenings

There is an online Compline service every Wednesday 8.00 pm, **all are welcome**. You can also join using a phone. You can join the meeting from 7.50 pm.

On the computer click: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81118183080>

On the phone dial: 0203 481 5240 and follow the instructions.

You will be asked for a meeting ID. Put **811 1818 3080** followed by #

CONTACT DETAILS

Vicar: Revd. Adrian Jones
adrian.jones@zoho.com

0116 2704268 or 07919 262 399
(rest day normally Friday)

Curate: Revd Cecilia Adjaje

Revd Aphro McCullough

Revd Janet Gasper

Reader: Fiona Wingate

Churchwardens:

David Hunt
Tina Jarvis

churchwardens@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Knighton Benefice Magazine: Nigel Siesage
stmaryknighton.magazine@gmail.com

FOR THE NEWSLETTER Please send material to be included in the next newsletter by noon next Thursday to administrator@stguthlac-knighton.co.uk

Don't forget to visit the St. Guthlac's Facebook page and website
<https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk>

Newsletters on Line

Both St Guthlac's and St Mary's current and backdated newsletters are available online.

St Guthlac's	https://www.stguthlac-knighton.co.uk
St Mary's	https://www.stmarysknighton.co.uk

Lent and Holy Week at St Mary's and St Guthlac's

As Easter is early this year, so we start Lent much earlier than we are used to. As we move through the weeks leading up to the great celebration of the Resurrection there are a number of opportunities in the benefice to reflect on our faith and prepare:

Lent Study Group – every Wednesday morning, from 10.30am to 12 noon, in the 'Warm & Welcome Room' (the Cottage Room) at the Parish Centre, on the corner of Brinsmead Road and Church Lane. Rev'd Cecilia will be leading us in looking at '*A Letter for Lent*' – group discussions with a focus on St Paul's Letter to the Colossians. Meetings begin on **Wednesday 21st February up to and including 27th March**. Everyone welcome, even if you can't make every week. There'll also be tea, coffee and refreshments each week.

Palm Sunday this year is **24th March** – at St Mary's there will be a Sung Eucharist and at St Guthlac's Morning Prayer.

Wednesday of Holy Week, 27th March, will be marked with a service of Choral Evensong at St Guthlac's. at 7.30pm.

On **Maundy Thursday, 28th March**, we will remember the Last Supper of Jesus, and the events that followed that evening before his execution, in a special service at St Guthlac's. We will share Communion within a service of prayers, readings and music. Everyone welcome from both churches (or neither!).

Good Friday is 29th March, and begins with a service for All Ages at St Guthlac's, at 10.30am. In the afternoon, beginning at 2pm, there will be a service of Meditations at the Cross, at St Mary's, including hymns, readings, quietness and reflections on the crucifixion, leading up to the hour of Jesus's death at 3pm.

Easter Sunday, 31st March is celebrated at both churches with a Sung Eucharist at 10.30am.

Please note the dates now and join us when you can. *Adrian*

Bishops' LENT APPEAL CHARITY 2024

Baca is a charity based in Loughborough and Cambridge which provides accommodation and therapeutic care for young people seeking refuge in the UK, without families.

The vision for the charity came from a local church after child refugees, who were being housed in unsafe environments, started coming to its youth group. Since opening a house to provide secure accommodation for those young people, Baca's service has grown and developed so that it can provide young people seeking refuge with the holistic support they need to lead a happy and fulfilling life.

Baca now runs 11 homes in Loughborough, with capacity for 39 young people, and has two homes in Cambridge. The young people also receive specialised education and training, enabling them to develop their English language, Maths and ICT skills so they can then transition into mainstream colleges.

Baca also provides art, dance and drama therapy and weekly sports activities like football, cricket, swimming and volleyball. This support enables the young people to begin to recover from their traumatic experiences and improves their mental and physical wellbeing.

Each young person cared for by Baca also has a support worker who helps them to develop life skills like cooking, and to adjust to life in the UK, its laws and culture. Those who work at Baca say they are privileged to get to know such extraordinary young people and to see them begin to heal and thrive. Each young refugee Baca serves has lost the only life they know and has overcome all the odds to reach safety. Their courage is inspiring but without support they are at extreme risk of harm and exploitation, unsure who they can trust or where they belong. Baca exists because whatever their circumstances, Baca believes every young person should have a safe place to heal and the freedom to build a better future.

We hope that by choosing Baca as our Lent Appeal charity, we can send a message to the young people in their care that they are precious and beloved children of God.

Prayer points:

- For all those who are forced to flee their countries because of war, persecution and violence, and especially for those who have to leave their countries as children, without their families - that they can find safety, care and welcome in a new home.
- For all the child refugees to be given the opportunity be safe, to heal, to thrive and to find hope for their futures.
- That there would be more compassion in how refugees and asylum-seekers are viewed and treated in the UK, so they can feel safe and begin to heal.
- For the work of Baca – that they would have all the funding, resources and partnerships they need to continue to provide life-changing and holistic support.

Here is how your money can help:

- £5 could equip new arrivals at Baca College with education starter packs
- £13 could provide an hour of learning for all child refugees studying at Baca College
- £50 could cover the setup costs for a new arrival's room

You can find out more about Baca's work [here](#) and donate [here](#).

Three New Canons Installed at Leicester Cathedral

At a service of choral evensong on Sunday 28 January, three new honorary canons were installed at Leicester Cathedral, alongside the Rt Revd Saju Muthalaly, who was installed as Bishop of Loughborough.

The three new honorary canons included our own **David Palmer** who serves as Chair of Trustees for the Diocesan Board of Finance.

David said, "It is a most unexpected honour and a privilege to be invited to become an Honorary Lay Canon of the Cathedral. I look forward to becoming more involved in the life and work of the Cathedral over the coming years."

Many congratulations to David as he receives this well-earned recognition of his service to the Diocese in the most challenging of times. *Adrian*

Free Film Night

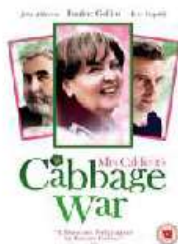
at St Guthlac's Church

Holbrook Rd

LE2 3LF



Part of our monthly Tea and Talk series of events. All welcome!



Mrs Caldicot's Cabbage Wars

(Cert 12, 110 mins)

Tues 12th March 7.00pm

After the death of her bullying husband, the not-so-aged and downtrodden housewife Thelma Caldicot (Pauline Collins) is shipped off to the Twilight Years Rest Home by her money grabbing son and manipulative daughter in law. Appalled by the conditions, Mrs Caldicot decides to take matters into her own hands...

Free refreshments and the chance to socialise